

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-07 CIAE-00

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5436

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3194

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB, IT, UNGA

SUBJ: CREDENTIALS 29TH GA WESTERN MEMBER OF CREDENTIALS  
COMMITTEE

1. 28TH PRESIDENT BENITES TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR BENNETT MORNING  
SEPTEMBER 16 TO REPORT THAT AUSTRIA IS UNWILLING TO SERVE ON CRE-  
DENTIALS COMMITTEE. BENITES SAID HE WOULD WANT TO NOMINATE ITALY  
IN PLACE OF AUSTRIA, AND IF ITALY NOT WILLING HE CONSIDERING NOR-  
WAY. HE ASKED US TO APPROACH ITALY SUPPORTING HIS DIRECT  
APPROACH, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND HE ALREADY HAS MADE.

2. AMBASSADOR SCHEUFELE SUBSEQUENTLY TELEPHONED ITALIAN MINISTER  
MIGLIUOLO TO ENCOURAGE ITALY TO ACCEPT NOMINATION. MIGLIUOLO  
TOLD SUCHAUFELE THAT HE HAD PUT RECOMMENDATION TO ROME BUT  
HE CONFIDED THAT CURRENT GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON CREDENTIALS  
QUESTIONS MIGHT NOT BE COSISTENT WITH TRADITIONAL US AND ITALIAN  
VIEW THAT CREDENTIALS ARE PURELY TECHNICAL QUESTION. HE  
COULD NOT BE CERTAIN, HE SAID, THAT ITALY THEREFORE WOULD  
VOTE WITH US IN CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE ON SAG AND KHMER CRE-  
DENTIALS. MIGLIUOLO SAID THAT RESPONSIBLE FONMINISTRY  
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OFFICIALS TEMPORARILY ABSENT AND THUS HE IS AWAITING RESPONSE.

3. WE HAVE NOT RAISED THIS WITH THE NORWAY MISSION. ITALY, UNLESS MIGLIUOLO'S FEARS ARE WELL GROUNDED, IS FAR BETTER CANDIDATE. WE BELIEVE NORWAY ON THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE (ASSUMING IT WOULD ACCEPT NOMINATION) WOULD BE LIKELY TO VOTE IN FAVOR GKR AND SAG CREDENTIALS BUT THE NORWEGIANS HAVE INDICATED POSSIBILITY OF ABSTENTION ON CAMBODIAN ITEM AND ARE LIKELY TO BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO PRESSURE FROM "NEUTRALIST" SCANDS.

4. WE ARE CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF SUGGESTING TO BENITES THAT BELGIUM OR FRG WOULD BE BETTER ALTERNATIVE.

5. FOR DEPARTMENT AND ROME: GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE TO US OF APPROPRIATE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE ACTION, WE BELIEVE THAT EMBASSY ROME SHOULD WEIGH IN WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY IN SUPPORT OF BENITES REQUEST. WHETHER OR NOT ITALY SERVES ON CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE, WE WILL NEED ITALIAN SUPPORT WHEN CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT COMES TO PLENARY. APPROACH WOULD BE FIRST, TO ENSURE THAT ITALY WILL CONTINUE TO SHARE OUR VIEW ON TECHNICAL ROLE OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE AND, SECOND, IF THEY CONTINUE TO SHARE THIS VIEW, TO URGE STRONGLY THAT ITALY ACCEPT BENITES REQUEST THAT ITALY SERVE.

6. REGARDING ROLE OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE, WE AND VIRTUALLY ALL OTHER WESTERN MEMBERS HAVE TRADITIONALLY AND FIRMLY HELD TO CONVICTION THAT COMMITTEE IS CHARGED ONLY WITH PASSING ON TECHNICAL QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT CREDENTIALS HAVE BEEN DULY ISSUED BY HEAD OF STATE OR FOREIGN MINISTER PURSUANT TO RULE 27 OF GA RULES OF PROCEDURE; SUBSTANTIVE POLITICAL JUDGMENTS ARE OUTSIDE COMMITTEE'S COMPETENCE.

7. REGARDING TIMING, BENITES MUST ANNOUNCE TO GA BY 3 P.M. EDT SEPTEMBER 18 COMPOSITION OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE. IF FOR ANY REASON, ITALY IS NOT CANDIDATE, WE WILL NEED TIME TO WORK WITH BENITES TO OBTAIN BELGIAN OR OTHER AGREEMENT. THUS IMMEDIATE DEMARCHE TO GOI WOULD BE ESSENTIAL.  
BENNETT

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## Message Attributes

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